



Attorney Docket No. 65961-0015

PATENT

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

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GROUP 3600

1-4. (Canceled)

5. (Previously Added) A lining for columns of automobiles, comprising:

a base area with fixing and holding elements and at least one opening area covering an airbag, wherein the at least one opening area comprises a thermoplastic material with a Shore A hardness greater than 100 and has a hinge area adjoining the base area and consisting essentially of a thermoplastic material with a Shore A hardness of less than 95.

6. (Previously Amended) The lining as claimed in claim 5, wherein the opening area is further bounded by intended fracture lines or wall thickness reductions adjoining the hinge area.

7. (Previously Amended) The lining as claimed in claim 5, wherein the hinge area consists essentially of a thermoplastic material with a Shore A hardness between 30 and 95.

8. (Previously Added) The lining as claimed in claim 7, wherein the hinge area consists essentially of a thermoplastic material with a Shore A hardness between 60 and 80.

9. (Previously Added) The lining as claimed in claim 5, wherein the base area and the opening area together with the hinge area are covered by a unified decorative layer.

10. (New) A lining for columns of automobiles, comprising:

a base area and at least one opening area covering an airbag, wherein the at least one opening area is formed of a unitary layer and comprises a first material having a first hardness, except for a hinge area comprising a second material having a second hardness being different than said first hardness.

11. (New) The lining as claimed in claim 10 wherein the base area has at least one fixing element.

12. (New) The lining as claimed in claim 10, wherein the second material is thermoplastic.

13. (New) The lining as claimed in claim 10, wherein the opening area is further bounded by intended fracture lines or wall thickness reductions adjoining the hinge area.

14. (New) The lining as claimed in claim 10 wherein the second hardness is less than the first hardness

15. (New) The lining as claimed in claim 14, wherein the second material further has a Shore A hardness between 30 and 95

16. (New) The lining as claimed in claim 14, wherein the second material further has a Shore A hardness between 60 and 80.

17. (New) The lining as claimed in claim 10, wherein the base area and the opening area together with the hinge area are covered by a unified decorative layer.